

# House Study Bill 239 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON MOHR)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a study to identify areas where the  
2 governance and funding of levee districts could be improved  
3 at the state and local level, and making appropriations.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING OF LEVEE DISTRICTS STUDY.

2     1. The department of homeland security and emergency  
3 management shall conduct a study to identify areas where the  
4 governance and funding of levee districts as specified in  
5 chapter 468 could be improved at the state and local level.  
6 The study shall also provide recommendations regarding the  
7 type and scope of necessary or desired improvements and the  
8 implementation of such improvements.

9     2. The department of homeland security and emergency  
10 management shall receive advisory support in the conducting  
11 of the study from the department of natural resources,  
12 department of agriculture and land stewardship, department of  
13 transportation, the Iowa economic development authority, and  
14 the Iowa flood center. The department of homeland security and  
15 emergency management shall seek the participation of active  
16 levee districts within Iowa as well as economists, engineers,  
17 legislators, and others familiar with levee operations and  
18 flood damages.

19     3. The department of homeland security and emergency  
20 management shall evaluate in detail all of the following:

21     a. The status of present levee district operations,  
22 including the structural status of levees, the financial status  
23 of the levee districts, and any associated regulatory status.

24     b. The future operational and funding challenges for levee  
25 district operations.

26     4. The department of homeland security and emergency  
27 management shall submit a report containing the results of the  
28 study and recommendations regarding the future governance and  
29 funding of the levee districts, including the implementation of  
30 improvements, to the general assembly by January 1, 2023.

31     Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY  
32 MANAGEMENT — APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from  
33 the general fund of the state to the department of homeland  
34 security and emergency management for the fiscal year beginning  
35 July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, the following amount,

1 or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used to conduct a  
2 governance and funding of levee districts study as provided in  
3 this Act:

4 ..... \$ 400,000

5 EXPLANATION

6 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

8 This bill requires the department of homeland security and  
9 emergency management (department) to conduct a governance and  
10 funding of levee districts study. A number of agencies are  
11 required to assist the department, including the department  
12 of natural resources, department of agriculture and land  
13 stewardship, department of transportation, Iowa economic  
14 development authority, and Iowa flood center. The department  
15 must submit a report containing the results of the study to the  
16 general assembly by January 1, 2023. The bill appropriates  
17 \$400,000 to the department in order to conduct the study.